

Fresno, California

March 25, 2003

The City Council met in an informational workshop session at the hour of 8:35 a.m. in Meeting Room 2165N ("A"), City Hall, on the day above written.

Present:	Brian Calhoun	Councilmember
	Brad Castillo	Acting Council President
	Mike Dages	Councilmember
	Jerry Duncan	Councilmember
	Henry Perea	Councilmember
	Cynthia Sterling	Councilmember (arrived during the afternoon session)
	Tom Boyajian	Council President

Dan Hobbs, City Manager  
Hilda Cantu Montoy, City Attorney  
Becky Klisch, City Clerk  
Yolanda Salazar, Assistant City Clerk

City Clerk Klisch led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

#### **WORKSHOP ON THE BROWN ACT**

Written follow-along material was submitted to Council and a power point presentation was given by Chief Assistant City Attorney Sanchez, who along with City Attorney Montoy and City Manager Hobbs, responded throughout the presentation to Council questions/comments and/or clarified issues relative to the difference between standing committees and advisory committees, ad hoc committees and when they should be open to the public, placing of non-jurisdictional/international items on the agenda, if the Charter allowed for citizens to request a council member or the mayor to place an item on the agenda, how to deal with non-relevant comments/discussion, ability to set time limits on issues, closed sessions and how to enforce "leaks" **(2 - 0)**, concern with delivery time of the confidential blue binders, individual council members setting up committees for certain issues, and Council's use of staff time.

#### **WORKSHOP ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Written material was submitted to Council and the workshop was presented by City Manager Hobbs, HECD Director Burkhardt and Planning & Development Director Yovino who gave an overview of the issue, reviewed the City's Economic Development Plan and the Economic Element to the 2025 General Plan, and along with EDC Director David Spaur responded throughout the presentation clarifying issues and/or responding to Council questions/comments relative to the southeast industrial park including jobs and agreement with Fresno County for City annexation of the property, process to assist the interested food processing plant, the Fancher Creek project, SB 898 and how it would affect the general plan, if processes and being "business-friendly" were being looked at, combining agencies to move projects forward expediently, need for coordination of agencies and forming a task force on unemployment, and Fresno being #6 in the top 25 best cities in California for business and where California CEO got its information. The workshop was continued to the later to address the following time scheduled matters.

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**(10:00 A.M.)** HEARING ON REZONING APPLICATION NO. R-02-65, FILED BY CAMBRIDGE HOMES (CONTINUE TO APRIL 1, 2003, AT 10:45 A.M.)

On motion of Councilmember Dages, seconded by Councilmember Perea, duly carried, RESOLVED, the hearing on R-02-65 filed by Cambridge Homes continued to April 1, 2003, at 10:45 a.m., by the following vote:

Noes : None  
Absent : Sterling

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#### 10:07 A.M. - 10:15 A.M. RECESS

#### CLOSED SESSION:

#### (A) THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES - CONSULTATION WITH FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT, CHIEF OF POLICE

The City Council met in closed session in Room 2125 at the hour of 10:15 a.m. to consider the above matter and reconvened in open workshop session at 11:15 a.m.

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#### WORKSHOP ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT *(CONTINUED FROM EARLIER)*

Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Director Spaur **(3 - 0)** and Redevelopment Agency Director Fitzpatrick reviewed economic development plans, priorities, initiatives, and the various redevelopment project areas, and along with City Manager Hobbs and City Attorney Montoy responded throughout clarifying issues and/or responding to questions/comments relative to the revolving loan fund, the Workforce Development Board/RFP/and if the City was going to participate, if the state was a player in Fresno's economic development efforts, timeline for total build out of the Roeding Business Park (RBP), what the plan was after completion of the RBP, the task force of department heads to trouble shoot problems and if developers participated in meetings, there being improved communication between key people to keep projects moving forward, mechanisms of the housing task force now happening with economic development, making use of resources, and need for Council to establish priorities **(4 - 0)**.

HECD Director Burkhardt summarized stating the priorities for economic development were business retention, business recruitment, and resident awareness of existing incentives that work for them and explained, and spoke to how the HECD department was approaching the issue. Brief discussion ensued on the need to set priorities and have a consensus of all the involved agencies.

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**LUNCH RECESS - 12:20 P.M. - 1:35 P.M.** Councilmember Sterling arrived later.

#### WORKSHOP ON WATER ISSUES

Written follow-along material was submitted to Council. Public Utilities Director McIntyre noted this workshop would focus on the issues of Fresno hydrology and water quality, advised the issues of infrastructure, the CVP contract, and fiscal planning would be discussed on April 8<sup>th</sup>, and gave a power point presentation and responded throughout, along with City Manager Hobbs and Assistant City Manager Souza, to questions and comments relative to housing vs. agricultural water consumption, balancing southeast's water budget and if that was a policy decision for Council, entitlements of utility service, where the Copper River concept fit in, meaning of partial meters, Fresno's daily per capita water consumption, how much of the 328 gallons consumed by Fresno residents daily is considered waste, the surface water treatment plant, cost to treat water, generalized groundwater conditions, **(5 - 0)** renewing the CVP contract, water contamination, the nitrate problem and cost, if the plume was being treated successfully or being reduced, why most contaminated sites were in the south, if a contaminated site was synonymous with the definition of blight, and if the redevelopment agency used contaminated sites as a criteria for blight. There was no further discussion.

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Barbara Hunt expressed concern with various violations of the Brown Act and elaborated, and spoke to being discrimination against.

Gloria Torrez stated (1) she was misquoted in past minutes, the minutes were not corrected as she requested and she was told her full comments were available on tape, and reiterated her request to correct the minutes stating people should not be censored and should be respected; (2) stated a lot of promises are made for transit which are not happening and that every transit dollar should go into transit; (3) spoke to vendors/small businesses being discriminated against; and (4) requested a copy of the City's emergency preparedness plan that the police, fire and transit departments were involved in stating she was not getting any response to her request.

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to bring before the Council, the hour of 2:58 p.m. having arrived and hearing no objection, President Boyajian declared the meeting adjourned.

**APPROVED** on the 1<sup>ST</sup> day of April, 2003.

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Tom Boyajian, Council President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Yolanda Salazar, Assistant City Clerk